

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 01188 160815Z

16

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AGR-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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R 160711Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS KUWAIT 1188

1. MOST LUMBER AND PLYWOOD IMPORTED INTO KUWAIT FROM E. EUROPE AND E. ASIA. SHIPMENT VIA SUEZ CANAL WILL PROBABLY MAKE E. EUROPEAN PRICES MORE ATTRACTIVE TO KUWAIT. NO LOCAL PRODUCTION.

2. FOLLOWING FIGURES ARE FOR CY 1973 AS COMPILED BY CENTRAL OFFICE OF STATISTICS: LARGEST EXPORTER OF ROUGH CUT LUMBER TO KUWAIT WAS ROMANIA KD898,243 (KD1 EQUALS \$3.40). SECOND WAS BURMA KD375,824; AUSTRIA KD263,130; USSR KD96,914, SINGAPORE KD60,462; MALAYSIA KD29,155 AND USA KD27,988 TOTAL IMPORTED KD2,032,140; 37,024,495 KILOGRAMS. FOR PLYWOOD, LARGEST SUPPLIER WAS TAIWAN KD1,403,088; SINGAPORE KD805,716; MALAYSIS KD353,402 AND SOUTH KOREA KD310,454. TOTAL VALUE KD3,034,022; WEIGHT 27,943,218 KILOGRAMS.

3. "WHITE" WOODS SUCH AS PINE, SELL FOR ABOUT KD48 PER CUBIC METER ALTHOUGH PRICE HAS RANGED AS HIGH AS KD65. "RED" SUCH AS OAK SELL FOR KD1.2 PER CUBIC FOOT.

4. LOCAL IMPORTERS TOLD EMBOFFS KUWAIT NOT USED TO HIGH QUALITY U.S. LUMBER AND U.S. PRICE WOULD HAVE TO BE VERY COMPETITIVE TO ENTER KUWAIT MARKET. MUSTAFA SULTAN, P.O. BOX 665, KUWAIT, CONSIDERED TO BE TOP LUMBER IMPORTER. OTHER PROMINENT LUMBER DEALERS ARE MOHAMED ABDULMOHSIN AL-KHARAFI, P.O. BOX 886, KUWAIT, AND SHUWAIKH CARPENTRY WORKSHOP, P.O. BOX 2649, KUWAIT. STOLTZFUS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LUMBER, IMPORT DATA  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Number:** 1975KUWAIT01188  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** hartledg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13 JUN 2003 by BrownAM>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2004 by hartledg>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** ETRD, KU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006